

Pirates Take Over the SJC Theater

By Ashlee Doty
Staff Writer

Over this past weekend, there was quite a commotion coming from the theater here at Saint Joseph's College. The Columbian players presented the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta *The Pirates of Penzance*. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday April 2nd through the 4th.

Many who attended this Columbian Players production, were amazed at the energy and liveliness that was brought to the stage. Sophomore Art Major, April Taber explained the performance in two words "very upbeat" and that aspect of the production could not be denied.

It is about an indentured pirate Frederick played by Sophomore Matt Harmon, who gains his freedom after twenty one years of serving the Pirate King and his gang. Frederick's nurse Ruth, played by Freshman Allison Hillmann, wants him to take her away but after finding out that there are more beautiful women out there, and that he had been lied to by his beloved nurse, he refuses.

Soon after, Frederick meets Mabel, one of the wards of Major General Stanley played by Senior Paige Popravak, they fall in love. Meanwhile, the other pirates fall for all of Mabel's sisters and attempt to capture and marry them.

In an attempt to save his daughters from the Pirate King, and his group, he tells them that he is an orphan and therefore

cannot be killed by them. This little lie is something that he would regret by the end of the play.

This play showed off the amazing talents of the singers at this school. One of the many highlighted in the play was Sophomore Jordan Leising, who played the Major General. Professor Ary Nelson stated, "Jordan was made for this role."

There were also many who thought that Junior Joe Stewart's character, the Pirate King was the funniest in the show.

"What I love about this character is that there was something completely different that I could do with him. He was more of a cartoon character and I was able to get into his actions a little more," responded Stewart.

Another Likable character in the production was Sophomore Tony Dyer and his role as the not so brave police sergeant.

"I thought it was absolutely hilarious! Tony Dyer, Joe Stewart, Jordan Leising were fantastic in their roles! Good job to the entire cast" exclaimed Senior English Major Elizabeth Gray.

This play had some very good points but also some bad ones as well. While the acting was outstanding, the levels at which they were talking and singing were difficult to hear. At points throughout the play the music could be heard above the singing and parts of songs were not caught by the audience.

All in all this play was very good. Senior English Major Jessica Lamping replied "Once

the play ended, you just had to smile. With all the great costumes, and great characters, you couldn't help but enjoy it!"



Pictured at Top: Mabel and Fredrick, played by Paige Popravak and Matt Harmon express their love towards one another.

Pictured Directly Above: Major General Stanley, played by Jordan Leising pleads for his life and he is captured by the pirates.

Pictured to the Left: Pirates Kevin Mackowicz, James Winter, Joe Stewart, Allison Hillmann, and Amanda Zarate show their tough spirit through song and dance.

(Pictures courtesy of Father Tim McFarland C.P.P.S.)



Puma Profile: Professor Michael Oakes

By Morgan Myers
Opinions Editor

Professor Michael Oakes teaches economics, finance, business, and Core here at Saint Joseph's College. Professor Oakes has been teaching part time since 1985, and full time since 1988.

Mr. Oakes got interested in teaching, when he began to teach college courses part time, and found that he "enjoyed it."

After he attended Indiana University for his Bachelors degree, Professor Oakes went on to the University of Rochester for his Masters. He explained that he, "...went to graduate school at a time when economics were important, like they are now. It's

what started me in that area of teaching."

Professor Oakes came to Saint Joseph's after living in Japan for five years, when he was called home due to family business. The college had the job open that he needed, it seemed just as he landed. When asked what he enjoyed most about the college, Professor Oakes said that he, "...really enjoyed the chance to get to know the students well."

In class, Professor Oakes has no set prescription to teaching. He comes in "student oriented." He observes where the students are, and he moves from that point, always building to a better education.

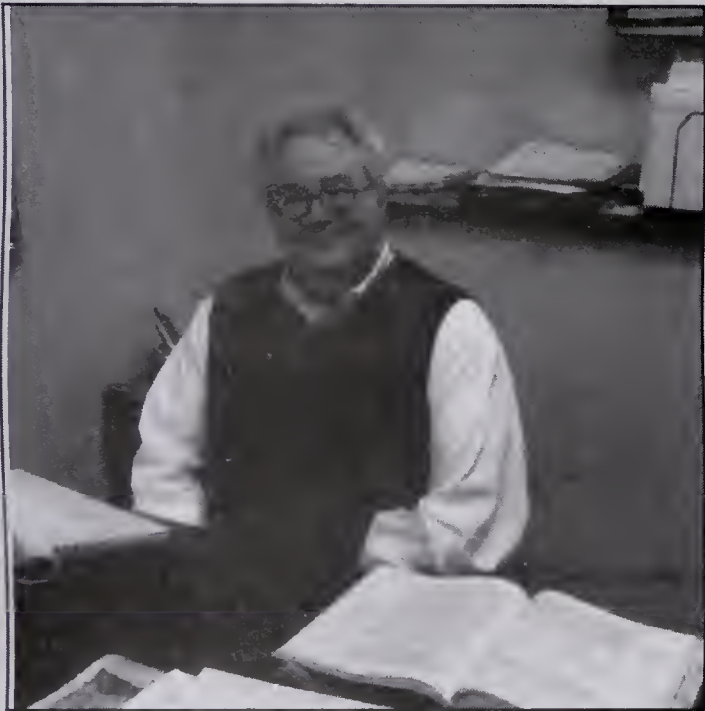


Photo courtesy of Morgan Myers

Wrapping up the Lenten Season

By: Francisco Gonzalez
Staff Writer



Photo Courtesy of http://thumbs.dreamstime.com/thumb_177/11878769244g36gl.jpg

As the Lenten season comes to a close this week, Campus Ministry leader Ary Nelson looks back to all of the activities and events that took place here at Saint Joseph's College. "We have had a really great turn-out at most of the events we host on campus," said Nelson as she looked back on the season. "It was great to see a lot of freshmen in attendance, as well as other upperclassmen that had never done anything for Campus Ministry, and only now have joined."

Throughout the Lenten season one of the activities Campus Ministry devotes its efforts to is the Stations of the Cross. Every Friday at five in the evening, students and Campus Ministry members meet at the grotto and walk along the path following the stations of Jesus Christ's crucifixion with a prayer

and reflection at each station. The highlight of the event is the soup dinner afterwards where liturgy committee members along with Ary Nelson help to make and prepare the soup and the dinner rolls.

Also taking place was the Taize prayer service in the chapel, and the Reconciliation service for students. Kairos 52 also took place with a good turnout. Tuesday, the liturgy committee attended the annual Chrism Mass at St. Mary Cathedral in Lafayette. At this Mass, the priests of the diocese renew their vows, and the oils are blessed for the coming year. Last Sunday Campus ministry finished up one of its last major projects, decorating the chapel for the Palm Sunday mass. Although the Lenten season is coming to an end, Campus Ministry still keeps on going. They will be coordinating another box collection in the dorms for the remainder of the semester for students to donate their non-perishable food items for the food pantry. Music ministry, in cooperation with Campus Ministry will be performing at the Baccalaureate mass as well as the Respect for Life committee taking a trip to Jonesborough, Arkansas.



The Lenten Season is a chance for all of us to remember what was done for us on the cross.
(photo courtesy of http://www.spiritlessons.com/images/passion_of_Christ/Passion_of_the_Christ_8.jpg)



End Of Year Reflection

By Shana Dempsey
Staff Writer

The end of this school year is quickly approaching and it seems as though this year has flew by. To some, this year was a great year and one of the greatest times in their life but to others it seemed like a horrible nightmare. To some like myself this school year was horrible and made college one of the worst times for someone to go through, but for others, it was the best thing ever.

Junior Kim Frank said, "Overall the school year was decent. My classes weren't too hard but I still can't wait for it to end."

Freshman Octavio Duenas said, "it went pretty great I have met a lot of good people and made a lot of good friends and have a lot of good time." That may be true but Duenas said that it wasn't always so great. "It's kind of small and not much to do around SJC but it make you try harder to find fun things to do."

"I think this year went quite well," responded Senior Lydia Thompson. "Over the years I

have had a great time and have met extraordinary people that will be in my life for many years. This year, as a senior, has been a blast with my friends and track teammates.

Senior Ian Vanderwall also had some final words to say about his experience here at SJC. "The only positive thing that actually came out of this school year is that I became better friends with the people who I lived with in the apartment, among a few other people who are actually worth remembering. If it weren't for those guys, this year would have been completely worthless."



Upcoming Events

- *4/10 - Good Friday
- * 4/12 - Easter
- * 4/14- Colloquim 1:00pm
- * 4/15- Ms. Puma 9:00pm in the Theater
- *4/16- Mr. Puma 9:00pm in the Theater
- *4/16- Senior Creative Writing Readings 6:00pm

Joke’s on You:
April Fool’s Day
By Kynten Hannon
Staff Writer

This week, more than a few of the students here at SJC are still in the process of trying to live down last week’s series of embarrassing pranks and jokes from the usual festivities associated with April 1st. While the victims of the practical jokes nurse their wounded pride and plot their revenge, did anyone ever wonder what evil genius came up with the idea of devoting an entire day solely to antagonizing your friends and relatives? I played with the thought for a few minutes before curiosity killed the blonde and I consulted Google.

As history would have it, no one actually knows where or from whom the idea of April Fool’s Day originated. It is thought to have been the product of the ancient New Year, which would have been celebrated around the first of April. When people heard of this change, many refused to accept the new date. Others who chose to accept the date would often send their unaccepting neighbors on fool’s errands to poke fun at them for their ignorance. It has also been suggested that it was formed to honor the changing of the seasons.

It is known, however, that the tradition began in the late 16th century in France and its neighboring countries. The celebration’s popularity spread to the greater part of Europe by the early 18th century and quickly became a normal part of European custom. There have been some minor alterations to rules of the holiday during that time. When the holiday was first being observed, it was considered a jinx to prank someone after noon. Only morning pranks were permissible. This tradition still holds true in Europe today. On the other hand, as many of us probably know a little too well, most people find it amusing to pull pranks at any and every hour, and some individuals just carry right on through the entire month until they feel they have sufficiently avenged themselves.

For those of you who fall into that category, please play nicely (and legally) with the other kids. It’s all fun and games till someone has to pay for your bail.

Have
your
voice
be
heard!

Dear Editor,

Would you want lower tuition without giving up amenities on campus? This could happen by altering Saint Joseph’s College to a working campus. A working campus provides funds that are earned through on-campus employment to support students in financing the costs of a college education.

Included on a working campus are a student run campus, lower tuition, and hands-on job experiences with the expertise and guidance of staff and faculty members throughout the entire college experience.

A working campus is a type of exchange program designed specially by each campus to best fit their personal needs. In a nut-shell, a working campus allows students to work a certain amount of hours per week which best fits their schedules. One of the first working campuses began at Blackburn College. Blackburn became a working campus in order to provide a higher education to individuals with the academic ability, but who were lacking the financial needs. Instead of earning money through paychecks weekly or bi-weekly, that money is put towards their tuition.

Colleges that have working campuses are able to lower tuition rates due to the fact that the students are actually working during the school year

Letter to the Editor,

In the first semester my roommate and I got along great, but then things started to turn sour. I mean the drama involved was so sour that even milk cannot turn that nasty.

So, after not too much thought I decided that once room applications were available for second semester I would apply for a single. I picked up the application from housing and there, in size ten font, boldly written, I read “freshman are not allowed to have singles.” By second semester, I believe freshman should have the option of having a single room granted to them on certain conditions.

When I asked students their opinion on the matter a junior said to me that “freshmen have to earn things around here.” I know seniority plays a large role in the distribution of

--Are there people or groups on campus that you think deserve to be recognized for their contributions to the campus community?
--Are there **issues** in *The Observer* that need to be addressed?
--Do you have any **concerns** with policies on campus?
--Are there issues you think need to be discussed?
--***Tell US About It!!***

The Student Forum is your way to speak out and have your voice be heard. Please send your letters to Morgan Myers at mmq7668@saintjoe.edu attached as a Rich Text Format (.rtf) document.

to pay the difference in tuition that they would have had to pay per semester. There are many benefits to a working campus that have a positive effect on current and potential students and their futures compared to schools that are not a working campus. The Federal Work Study Program funds roughly 3,400 colleges.

Since America is currently suffering from a recession, affordable tuition for students is playing a key role in choosing colleges. Scholarships, grants, and work study programs seem to be only helping but barely.

Students and parents still find themselves taking out what seems to be massive amounts of money in loans causing a great deal of debt. Instead of looking at what college is a perfect match for the student, they are choosing colleges based on tuition. Presently, more than ninety percent of all full-time students at Saint Joseph’s College are receiving some type of financial aid, which includes the work-study program.

Though it is a great concept, it has many flaws for athletes and other students. One flaw includes a lack of available hours and the large number of students in need of hours. Another flaw is scheduling work around sports, classes, and extracurricular activities. By switching to a working campus, SJC would be benefiting the entire student body, athletes, and parents. This would benefit them because students

rooms and I agree with that. I feel that after the head honchos get what they deserve then freshmen should be allowed to have a single if the space is available second semester. Another sophomore commented, “As long as upperclassmen are happy with their living situation then why shouldn’t freshman be allowed to have a single. I mean, it’s not hurting anyone.” Also, I believe freshman have earned some benefits by the start of second semester. Look at some of the GPAs freshmen have second semester and their involvement in church ministries, sports, and various other campus activities.

I spoke with Brian Cole, a housing official, and he enlightened me on campus policy. Brian informed me that the campus believes it is beneficial for freshman to have roommates because it will force freshman to work on communication skills

www.PhotoBucket.com



would be given the opportunity to work many more hours allowing students and parents to pay a much lower tuition. Paying a lower tuition would be especially helpful now due to the economy. It would also be much easier for athletes to have and keep a job with their demanding schedules.

By sharing, belonging, and contributing through their work, students gain an added sense of community and individual responsibility. A student in the work-study program will take money and school more seriously because they are working to be there. This combination of academic preparation and practical work experience prepares students for meeting the challenges of life, career, and any post-graduate experience.

By switching to a working campus Saint Joe’s would re-open a window of opportunity to those who are academically eligible to attend here, but have chosen other schools due to the high tuition rate of a private college. With the help of the working campus, staff and faculty at Saint Joseph’s College would have less work with the same amount of pay.

Students and their families would not be put into such a great amount of debt. Students would learn not only in the classroom, but outside as well about what life is going to be like once they graduate from SJC and step into the real world.

Matthew J. Schumacher

and learn that in the real world you will have to learn how to compromise. Brian had a valid point. I do believe freshman need to learn how to give a little and take a little. After one semester though, I believe freshman would have a grasp on compromising. My roommate and I were able to come to a consensus on quiet hours as well as chores in the room. Mr. Cole also informed me that the other reason for freshman not having singles is because the school does not have the resources to provide everyone with a single and therefore it is only offered to upperclassman. Once again, I believe that after upperclassman receive their first choice then freshman should have the option open to them provided that the resources are available.

In all, I believe that second semester singles should be available to freshman only after upperclassman had their pick and

permits. By the beginning of second semester I would hope freshman would have an excellent idea on the concept that in the real world you will have to compromise and know how to work through problems in a responsible manner. I hope the school will fix the housing policy for future freshman.
Sincerely,
Lauren Vance

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We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph’s College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.

Does Somebody Have a Case of the Mondays?

By Amber Melvin
Staff Writer

“Office Space”, released in 1999, is a wonderful movie to watch when you have had a bad day at the office or at work and you need a good laugh to shrug the nasty day off.

“The Office” is the now popular television show, made as a spin-off from the movie. In my opinion the movie is much better than the television show. I cannot sit through that boring, tasteless, so-called “comedy”. The people who wrote the show should not have done a spin-off television show.

In the movie, Ron Livingston plays Peter Gibbons and Jennifer Aniston portrays Joanna, along with Peter’s two office buddies,

played by David Herman, as Michael Bolton, and Ajay Naidu, as Samir. Diedrich Bader also stars in the film as his neighbor.

Peter is your average office worker. He gets up at the exact same time everyday and sits in traffic forever, then gets to work and has to deal with way too perky people saying, “Does somebody have a case of the Mondays?” He spends his days avoiding his boss like the plague because he doesn’t want to end up working this next weekend. He is forced to deal with this kind of stuff day in and day out.

Peter is a very likeable character and he is one of those characters that you can’t dislike, even as he goes through hell and back all the time. I rooted for



The copy machine stole their candy. (Photo courtesy of <http://blog.pricegrabber.com/shopgreen/files/2007/09/office-space.jpg>)

him in every task he set out to complete during this film.

Peter and his buddies really are a hilarious bunch. They work well together and they are different, yet much the same. They are good friends and when

Peter gets them into a royal mess, though they are angry with him beyond belief, they are still there for him and help one another out of the mess.

This is a really fun movie. The humor is wonderful and Peter’s visions truly are great. I always found them hilarious when he had them, because they are so outlandish and wild. I loved the way Peter dealt with things after

the counseling scene.

The comedy was very well written and the actors did a wonderful job acting. This is one of those movies where you are so engulfed in it you are disoriented when you pop back into reality. The ending was a good ending for this film.

This movie seems to be intended toward anyone who is an office worker or a college or graduate student. Younger children may not understand the quirkiness of the film. So high school age and older would be the ideal audience for this film.

This is a classic movie for anyone. My kids will watch it when they are in high school and I bet that they will love it even then.

I really love how this movie is set up and plays out. This is a well-written, well-acted, very amusing movie. I would recommend it to anyone high school age and older.

Office Space

Cast

Ron Livingston: Peter Gibbons
Jennifer Anistan: Joanna
David Herman: Michael Bolton
Ajay Naidu: Samir
Diedrich Bader: Lawrence
Stephen Root: Milton Waddams
Gary Cole: Bill Lumbergh

Director/Writer

Mike Judge

Released

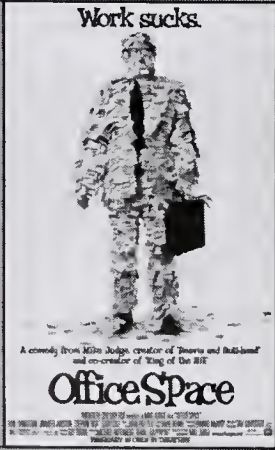
February 19, 1999

Rated

R for language and brief sexuality

Runtime

89 minutes



(Photo courtesy of http://www.im-pawards.com/1999/posters/office_space.jpg)



Try some coffee. The sugar is arsenic. (Photo courtesy of http://farm2.static.flickr.com/1386/1037141440_c2cce0eb1f.jpg)

In Case You Missed It: David Bowie’s Diamond Dogs in the Rough

By Michael Garrity
Staff Writer

David Bowie has been known as the “Rock and Roll Chameleon,” famous for his oft-changing styles that have kept his music and image fresh for fans new and old alike. However, what most people tend to remember Bowie for the most is his glam-rock era, which encompassed four albums spanning the years 1972-1974.

While his first “glam” album is widely considered to be the best work of his career (1972’s *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars*), it is the final swan song of Bowie’s makeup and hairspray, 1974’s *Diamond Dogs*, that may truly be the most complete work in his catalog.

For his final glam opus, Bowie ditched the backing band he had been playing with since Ziggy Stardust, which notably included one of his most famous collaborators, Mick Ronson, and picked up a whole new group of musicians for this record. Much like the glam albums Ziggy Stardust and Aladdin Sane before this one, Bowie takes on the role of a character, whose story is to be told through the course of the album.

While the other two albums’ characters were titled after the albums, *Diamond Dogs*

introduces his fans to Halloween Jack, who Bowie portrayed on stage as essentially being Ziggy Stardust with an eye patch.

Originally conceived as a sort of tribute to the George Orwell novel 1984 (after which a song on the album is named), the idea was later merged with his own post-apocalyptic opera featuring Halloween Jack. As a result, the later songs on the album are still reminiscent of the Orwell theme, while the earlier tracks

focus more on Bowie’s own storyline.

The album starts with the haunting introductory track “Future Legend,” which kicks off the whole experience with the line, “this ain’t rock n roll, this is genocide.”

It segues into the cowbell-happy, Stones-inspired track “Diamond Dogs,” which sets up the story of Halloween Jack. This song was briefly featured in the film *Moulin Rouge*, while the diamond dogs are singing their introductory medley. Coincidence? I think not!

The next three tracks, “Sweet Thing,” “Candidate,” and “Sweet Thing (Reprise)” are all part of one continuous song, full of sweeping pianos, strings, and horns. The song that follows is the album’s most famous track, and one of the best singles Bowie has ever released. The catchy, punky, and very glam “Rebel Rebel” starts off with a killer guitar riff

that has helped solidify it as a classic track recognizable even today.

The next song is a piano-pop track complete with crunchy guitars and organs titled “Rock ‘n’ Roll With Me,” and boasts an epic chorus that will be stuck in your head for days after listening to it.

If any song could be more different from “Rock ‘n’ Roll with Me,” it is the next track, “We Are the Dead.” Led largely by keyboards, this song starts the 1984 references that will finish out the album. The song has a distinct, eerie sound that is unmatched by any other track in Bowie’s discography and, like “Future Legend,” which starts the Halloween Jack story, is undeniably haunting.

Following that is the song “1984,” a funky, soulful tune that sounds more like the Shaft theme song than anything off of Ziggy Stardust, and shows the first signs of Bowie’s soul era that begins with his next album, *Young Americans*.

Following that is “Big Brother,” my personal favorite Bowie song. A song led largely by horns, with an intensely catchy chorus that breaks in the middle with just a single acoustic guitar before coming back together at the end and running into the next track “Chant of the Ever Circling Skeletal Family.” “Chant” is the perfect ending to an album that takes so many twists and turns, as it is, as the title suggests, simply a continuous chant.

Though *Diamond Dogs* is rarely considered among the upper tier of Bowic albums like *Hunky Dory*, *Low*, and the aforementioned *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars*, it is one of his best albums, but possibly the best representation of his status as the “Rock and Roll Chamelcon.” The mix of divergent styles makes the album a treat to listen to from beginning to end because not only is there something for everyone, but all of it is excellent to boot! If anyone has a desire to begin listening to Bowie’s music, this would be one of the first albums you want to pick up to get a feel for how wide his range of songwriting abilities stretches.



(Photo courtesy of <http://fredvidal.files.wordpress.com/2008/11/david-bowie.jpg>)

DAVID BOWIE

Album
Diamond Dogs

Released
April 24, 1974

RCA Records
Produced by: David Bowie

Tracklisting

1. Future Legend
2. Diamond Dogs
3. Sweet Thing
4. Candidate
5. Sweet Thing (Reprise)
6. Rebel Rebel
7. Rock ‘n’ Roll With Me
8. We Are the Dead
9. 1984
10. Big Brother
11. Chant of the Ever Circling Skeletal Family

(Photo courtesy of <http://geordierussell.instone.net/Jukebox/Img/B/Bowie%20-%20diamond.jpg>)

A Pirate's Life For Me

By Andrew Dudich
Staff Writer

"How long is it gonna take in our society to see a person with an eye patch and not to think that they're a pirate? I just saw a guy with a suit and a briefcase and an eye patch and all I thought was, 'ARRR!'"

Demetri Martin is absolutely correct in his assertion that our culture has become obsessed with pirates. This has been due in part to the record-breaking popularity of Pirates of the Caribbean. As a result, one of the most influential figures that we identify with pirates is actor, Johnny Depp.

Depp as Captain Jack Sparrow in the Pirates of the Caribbean trilogy, has given America a renewed love for the swashbuckling tales of old. Fans have favorable reactions towards his character's swaggering and inept, yet effective, style. Depp performs peerlessly as a comical pirate lord who is out to conquer the seas and although concerned primarily with himself, occasionally finds the gumption to help out a friend.

The next performer easily identifiable as a pirate is SJC junior, Joe Stewart, through his breathtakingly dramatic

role as the pirate king in Gilbert and Sullivan's, The Pirates of Penzance, performed by the Columbian Players. In the musical, Stewart portrays the rugged leader of a band of pirates who are too softhearted to be effective; however, in the end, all turns out well in a magnificent musical number filled with song, dance, and me chortling from the audience. In the words of the pirate king, "It is, it is a glorious thing to be a pirate king!"

To continue on our review of contemporary scalawags, I must



Yo ho, I want some music! (Photo courtesy of http://radio.sc/blog/wp-content/uploads/2008/12/music_pirate.jpg)

not neglect those 1337 h4><0r3r5 known as 1n73m37 π-r85, or for those n00bs out there, Internet pirates. File-sharing software is readily available on the Internet, and the latest blockbuster film is only a click away. The surge of media pirating began several years ago when web connections became fast enough to download

large files quickly. Now users are able to download entire television series while they leech music off of their neighbor down the street. Flea markets and street vendors are filled with pirated DVDs for only a couple of dollars. In this modern age of instant communication, it seems that pirates

have left the salty seas to instead sail the savory strands of invisible sinew that we call the Internet.

Lastly, the pirate most recognized on campus is none other than the infamous Captain Morgan. In his name, loud music resounds and Core papers are forgotten (as well as what happened last night). I highly recommend that you watch out for this old seadog because once under his influence, there is no telling what might happen!

In short, pirates have permeated our society, and although we may no longer see them on our shores, it is quite reminiscent to hear tales of plundering and pillaging as a bard sings of life under the old Jolly Roger: "Yo ho, yo ho! A pirate's life for me..."



Run! Run! They're hungry! (Photo courtesy of <http://depoisfalamos.files.wordpress.com/2006/11/jack-sparrow.jpg>)

Getting Fixed, And Not Like Bob Barker Wants You To Do

By James Smith
Staff Writer

The announced retirement of President Mills welcomes a bit of discussion on what might need to change around Saint Joseph's College and what works really well. Typically, one might find rants and generally moaning here about what stinks about SJC. Like all colleges I am sure, students grumble. However, instead of just whining, I'm actually going to back up my suggestions.

First, a little humor. It looks like Saint Joseph's College will be adding a new varsity athletic program on campus. Swimming looks to be the new sport for the Pumas as students get laps in while walking to and fro on campus.

The flooding sidewalks is a legitimate problem. One of the points emphatically made clear each fall by Ernest is that this is a walking campus. I suppose that instead of purchasing a car over Christmas break I should have purchased a boat. One of the comments I have heard from my friends when they visit here is that they like how spread out the campus is. I like walking around on campus, especially in the warmer months. I will admit that many times I have driven from Noll over to the Rec Center because I did not want to walk through the puddles.

Speaking of driving on campus, stop it!!! No student should have to yield to traffic driving through campus. (See

the note above about SJC being a walking campus.) If you have any questions about that, stop by Ernest's office. It is absolutely pathetic to drive from the apartments to Halleck for dinner, let alone to be driven from Justin to the Core for classes. If you want to be that lazy, why even bother going to class?

I really would like to see some of the roads blocked off during the day on campus. For example, block off Fr. Kenkel Road (between Merlini and Seifert) during the day and leave it for foot traffic only. After say 6pm it would open up for driving. Then, shut it down again during the day. Campus should be as friendly as possible to foot traffic.

Speaking of walking on campus, what is up with the lights that go on and off randomly around campus? The only lights near sidewalks I have ever seen stay on consistently are the lights by the apartments. Not having well lit sidewalks seems like a legitimate safety and security issue. I know that this issue has been raised a number of times in the Senate and amongst students throughout campus. It might be fun watching drunk students

try to find their way in the dark, but for those of us scared of the dark still or who feel slightly uncomfortable walking alone on campus in the dark, this needs to be fixed.

Now onto which professors should be let go. Just kidding. I wanted to see if you were still reading. What's

working well? Students still complain about Core, so there's probably something good going on there. Our academics do truly seem to only be getting stronger. Even though many of us, myself especially, joke about the College being another four, or in my case five, years of high school, SJC is a pretty interesting place.

I have not seen or heard of many schools that have as many first generation college students and are as homogenous as we are. Sure, there are the little cliques in the cafeteria and everyone has their own respective packs. When it comes to a basketball or football game, Puma Olympics either as a competitor or spectator, or even graduation in a few weeks for us seniors getting our degrees, it is just a Puma sitting next to a Puma. The thing I'm most proud of being a Saint Joe grad, in a few weeks I hope, is this blending on campus.



Water water everywhere and n'er a drop to drink. (Picture courtesy of http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_TV/EjAyW4FkRts_unXRARI/AAAAAADe8/ZWnm41xc6Ng/s1600/zero.jpg)

Alumni Speaks About the Horrors of Real Life and Her Desire to Stay In School

By Elizabeth Bessette
Guest Alumni Writer

Chances are, dear reader, you have seen me around campus: I'm the tall, awkward alumni with a sparkling personality that can't seem to graduate for real. And would you like to know why that is? I have attachment issues. Kidding.

Actually, it is because the so called 'Real World' sucks. No really, it sucks. The worst decision I ever made was getting the grades that caused Saint Joseph's College to kick me out with this lie called graduation. So here I sit, still at school even though I clearly don't belong. Now I'm even writing for the paper again. I know, sad isn't it?

I have a kernel of advice for you: Don't graduate. Seriously, stay in school for as long as possible. In school everything makes sense. You have a paper due this day at this time, read the chapters in such and such book, therapy with the counselor, and a scheduled exam the next day.

About the only surprise you get in school is the occasional pop quiz (gasp, horror, faint), and wondering who barfed in your left shoe. But apart from those few minor inconveniences, college life

is pretty much perfect.

I can't tell you how many times I have tried to strike up a conversation with someone outside of school and it fell completely flat. You see, the general populous is not very bright. This is not necessarily a bad thing, but when you are looking for a mentally stimulating discussion then they are generally not the best conversationalists.

At school, you can sit in a discussion class and talk at length about the impact Shakespeare had on the world and have someone actually know what you are saying. In the Real World, if Shakespeare is even mentioned, you will receive a blank look or get carted off to the slammer for having threatened someone.

Not only will you feel over educated in the Real World but you will have issues breaking into the job market. I'm sure the last thing you want to read about is the failing economy, but it is true that jobs are scarce. That is unless you think flipping burgers is your dream career, because if that is the case then I'm almost positive that the MacDonald's in Crown Point is hiring.

In fact, it would be beneficial to go to graduate school

(ohM'gawd, not more school). It is something I feel a bit guilty about writing off, though I could still attend if the spirit moved me. Think of it like this: Once you graduate from school, two years from now, the economy may be out of the toilet (maybe, perhaps, hopefully but probably not) and in the process of being rinsed off in the sink. Not only does this mean the job market will be more flexible, but you will also possess the talents to start a really excellent career. And you may even get paid, too. Imagine that.

Now you see what I am suggesting. Despite my sarcastic ramblings up until the last paragraph, what I really want to do is tell you to go to grad school. I feel slightly underhanded waiting all the way till now, but I'm sure I will get over it.

Honestly, Grad. school is the way to go. You will go to classes that interest you, and if you are lucky, might work as an aid and have most of your extended schooling paid for by the school. Getting paid to go to school and therefore putting off the Real World? Sounds like the perfect plan. Perhaps that makes me the perfect procrastinator.



Our very own pirate king. (Picture courtesy of Andrew Dudich)

Recovering From Losing Streak: Pumas Win 7 Straight



By Jeremy Butterfield
Staff Writer

The Puma Baseball team had trouble when they faced Grand Valley Lakes Conference (GLVC) rival Northern Kentucky in a 4 game series over the weekend of 21st-22nd. The Pumas ended up losing all 4 games. This losing streak brought the Pumas record to 14-11 and 3-5 in the conference. Next, they faced the Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles.

This day was a crazy one: the wind was blowing out of right field making a lot of the fielders misjudge where the ball was going to land. There were a total of 34 hits in the game. This game did not have bad pitching; any contact with the ball was going a fair distance due to the wind. The Pumas got out of the game with a win with a score of 16-10, but this game was closer than what the score shows. The Pumas pulled ahead of the Screaming Eagles in the 6th inning by one and in the 8th got five insurance runs. This game started an 11 game home streak for the Pumas.

The next set of games were against the Oakland City Mighty Oaks in a 4 games series over

two days. (Each game had only 7 innings.) In the top of the 2nd the Oaks had a small rally where they got two hits and 1 run was scored but they left two men on. The Pumas had success one inning later when Pudlo was walked with two outs so the Pumas had an uphill battle with getting a rally started. Then Messina got a single up the middle which advanced Pudlo to second. Then Pericht got to the plate and on his second pitch got a homerun. The Pumas were now leading 3-1. The inning ended for the Pumas shortly after that with a groundout from Estand to Shortstop.

The Mighty Oaks were next to start the action when Feltner singled to second base; right after him Makarem singled which moved Feltner to second. After that Calderon was hit by a pitch and advanced all the runners. Then Bencid was also struck by a pitch bringing in Feltner for a run. This was the high light for the Mighty Oaks in that inning The Oaks scored 1 run, got two hits and, left three men on base which makes the score 3-2 Pumas.

The Pumas answered with a run of their own thanks to an error by the Oaks Shortstop Tauil. The Pumas did not need that run but that was a nice insurance run for the score of 4-2 Pumas. In the last inning the Oaks were hoping

to get at least two runs to go into overtime but the Oaks only had three bats up and three batters out. For both teams this was a good game and both pitchers stayed in the whole game; for the Pumas Gateman got the win (5-2) and the Oaks pitcher Johnson got the lose (0-4).

The second game of this doubleheader came quickly after the first game because there was a chance of snow. The Mighty Oaks had 8 players playing both games; with the Pumas having 7 players playing both games. The Oaks did not do a terrible job with the first game they just needed to hit the ball better and get a few more runs. The game started with both teams off to a slow start but in the bottom of the 2nd the Pumas got one run in when Valdez singled up the middle which allowed Staatz to score from second base. The score was 1-0.

The Mighty Oaks quickly responded to this run with 2 runs of their own but both of these runs happened by errors for the score 2-1 in the Oaks favor. For the next 2 ½ innings there was only one hit by each team. In the sixth inning is where a lot of action happened, the Oaks got a little rally going with Tauil getting walked and a wild pitch to advance him. Then DeAbreu got a single to right field to allow Tauil to score that allowed the score to be 3-1. In the bottom of the sixth the Pumas had

an answered everything the Oaks had for them. The Pumas scored 3 runs, got two hits and left no men on base to make the score 4-3. The Pumas just got really good hitting and everyone know there could be no hero they just needed to work as a team. There were no errors by the Oaks so this just showed how the Pumas keep their cool even when losing by two.

In the top of the 7th inning the Mighty Oaks had nothing left in them and only got one hit and left two man on base. The final score is 4-3 in the Pumas favor. Buhig (3-0) got the win for the Pumas and VanBibber (2-4) got the lose for the Mighty Oaks. The next two games on Sunday were rained out and being talked about when they are going to be rescheduled.

The Pumas are now 17-11, 3-5 in conference play and 0-4 in our division. This coming up weekend the Pumas face University of Wisconsin-Parkside Rangers. They are in our division and could help us get back into the division top rankings. We are facing them with a four games series over this time. (In a recent update, the Pumas swept the Rangers in a four game series.)



SJC Varsity Baseball HOME Schedule:

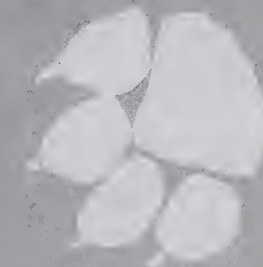
April 7th- (dh) Tiffin- starts @12pm

April 15th- (dh) Kentucky State- gm 1-T.B.A. gm 2@ 12pm

April 18th-19th- (4gm series/dh)- Indianapolis- each gm starts @12pm

May 2nd-3rd- (4gm series/dh)- Kentucky Wesleyan- each gm starts @12pm

gm= Game
dh= Double Header



By Pam Larson
Staff Writer

Softball Team Sliding Into Conference Title?

at bat of the game.” Despite the cold weather that the team played up in Wisconsin, they still caught up to win their first game at UW-Parkside. One of the nicer things about the Pumas’ softball season was starting it down in Florida with warm weather. Even with the climate changes, they have had a good turnout for home games. One of the more important things that has lead the Softball

team to one of the better conference records is improved team chemistry. Sophomore Outfielder Stephanie Hash said, “This season our team has had a much improved attitude. The team as whole has the right mentality to accomplish whatever challenges are set in front of us. We have a strong starting line-up that is backed up by a supportive bench. Bottom line, we are playing great softball this season and having a lot of fun doing it.”

For the hours that these ladies are putting into practice, the reward has paid off with being in the top half of the conference and almost a month left in the season to improve their conference record with six teams to play out of the GLVC. Good luck to the ladies and have a great remainder of the season!

The warm weather has brought out more people to enjoy coming out to see players sliding into the dirt and hitting home runs. Softball is one of the more enjoyable pastimes of American society since many organizations have a league from work or schools. Almost anybody can do it, but only a few do it well, like the SJC Softball team.

The Puma Softball team has had an excellent streak these past couple of weeks,winning seven out of ten games leading them to an overall record of 18-12 and a conference record of 6-4. When asked about a favorite game this season, freshman Pitcher Rachel Weaver said, “my favorite game this season was when we played Wisconsin-Parkside. I personally did well with a home run at my first



SJC Softball HOME Schedule:

Apr 10 Drury 12:00 pm

Apr 10 Drury 2:00 pm

Apr 11 Rockhurst 12:00 pm

Apr 11 Rockhurst 2:00 pm

Apr 18 Indianapolis 12:00 pm

Apr 18 Indianapolis 2:00 pm

Apr 22 Illinois Springfield 3:00 pm

Apr 22 Illinois Springfield 5:00pm



Head Coach, Frank Wilkins (left) talks to his team before a game. (Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.)

It's The Final Four Baby!



By John Wyatt
Staff Writer

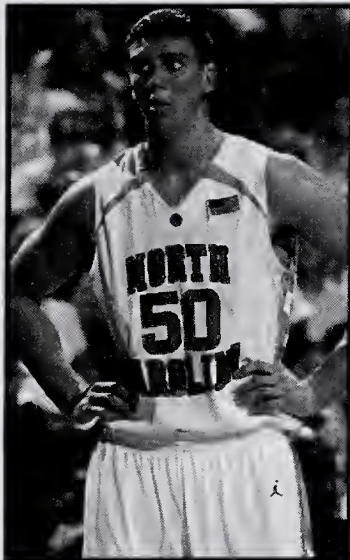
Quoting the great Dick Vitale is hardly enough to help describe the excitement and anxiety brought upon by the Final Four. By the time this article is printed and read we would have already crowned a new national champion. However, lets breakdown the games that have gotten us here thus far:

Elite 8:
Louisville 1 v. Michigan St. 2- Louisville coming off a an easy win over 12 Arizona, was looking to just roll over MSU as they did Arizona. However State had other plans, and gave Louisville a hard nose defense and a big fight. State would end up pulling away in the second half defeating the number 1 overall seed Louisville, 64-52.

UConn 1 v Mizzou 3- Mizzou surprised most people, well at least me, with its win over Memphis. UConn just seemed to breeze by Purdue to set this game up. To me I thought Mizzou was going to knock them off, however

the dominating combo of Stanley Robinson and Hasheem Thabeet proved too much for Mizzou. UConn claims victory 82-75.

Pitt. 1 v Villanova 3- Nova coming of the huge win over Duke was on rampaging roll in the tournament thus far. Pitt. arguably the best team in the tourney has had some trouble beating the "easy" teams so far, so this game would prove their worth of being national contenders. However, the finesse and speed of Nova, who had beaten Pitt. twice in the regular season, seemed once again to be too much



Courtesy of (http://grfx.cstv.com/photos/schools/unc/sports/m-baskbl/auto_action/2605020.jpeg)

to handle. Yet in the final minutes of the game Nova almost gave it up letting Pitt get back in and tie the game. Somehow though Nova would run down and score with .5 sec left in the game to give Nova the W.

UNC 1 v Oklahoma 2- Tyler Hansbrough v Blake Griffin, this was the match-up most had in mind rather than thinking UNC or OK. However, the power house team of UNC loaded with weapons like Ty Lawson or D. Green just overpowered, outscored, and out played the Sooner's. Final Score: 72-60, UNC wins.

As for the Final Four match games between MSU v UConn, and Villanova v UNC, I can hardly say who will win. In case you don't know, this year's Final Four is being played in Detroit which is 85 miles from East Lansing home of MSU. They are the only team within 500 miles of Ford Field where the games are being played. Is that home court advantage? The experts say there no such thing as home court advantage in this game, however I respectfully disagree which is why I am going Green and choosing the MSU Spartans to beat UConn. As for Nova and UNC, I just seem to have a hatred for both

UNC and Duke, for some reason I'm not even sure of, which is why I would love to see Nova win. However, realizing just how strong the Tar Heels look this year and a fully healthy Ty Lawson, Tar Heels win by 4. Sorry Nova.

As for the Championship between MSU v UNC. Having already played once before in a regular season exhibition against each other, and ironically it was on Ford Field, the Tar Heels smashed the Spartans 90-63. But I wouldn't count out the Sparty's this time. They are on one heck

of a roll, and Sutton the MSU Center is playing better and better every game. Yet, despite their valiant effort I do not think it will be enough. UNC wins, unfortunately, by my guess 12.

So to recap the Final Four: MSU v UConn = MSU by 2

UNC v Nova = UNC by 4

Championship: MSU v UNC = UNC by 12

(numbers next to schools represent seed numbers)



MLB Breakdown: The NL East



By Jamie Fennessy
Staff Writer

This article is a continuation of the last one I wrote in about. In the last issue I talked about the NL Central and my predictions for the year. The Cubs have the best total package, but it is a wide open NL Central. The Astros are on the rebound, and the Cardinals are always in the scheme of things. Due to the size of the last article, the Pirates were left out of last edition. So Pirate fans, no I did not forget your team, they just didnt fit. So here you go.

Pittsburgh Pirates

The Pirates have not had a winning season for the last ten years. The Pirates are a young team that shows a lot of promise, but seem to be that team that is always one or two seasons away. There weren't that many transactions for the Pirates over the offseason. Eric Hinske and Craig Monroe were the lone editions to this NL Central cellar dweller.

Look for the Pirates to vastly improve however. The young infield including the LaRoche brothers, Freddy Sanchez, and Jack Wilson. Hinske, last year's only Pirates representatives in the All-Star game last year Nate McLouth, Craig Monroe, and Brandon Moss will be patrolling the outfield. Ryan Doumit will start as the Pirates catcher last year, and his bat has some juice in it. Looking to the rotation, Zach Duke is healthy again, Ian Snell will be used as the teams ace, and Jeff Karstens tries to solidify his spot as the fourth starter in the rotation. The Pirates are improved however they are still a few seasons away.

NL East

Atlanta Braves

The Braves had a very busy offseason trading away Brent Lillibridge and other prospects to the Chicago White Sox for Javier Vazquez. After a long fued with Rafael Furcal and his agent, the Braves decided to sign Garret Anderson, Tom Glavine, and Derek Lowe to a team full of young talent, and power bats. Look for

Lowe to have a big impact on the Braves, and the NL East picture. Chipper Jones had a great 2008 campaign, and hopes to replicate those numbers this season. Brian McCann, Casey Kotchman, Yunel Escobar, and Jeff Francoeur anchor a lineup that is due to annoy the Phillies, and Mets all season.

New York Mets

The Mets are one of the only teams in the National League that has a lineup comparable to the hard hitting lineups in the American League. The Mets are aging and time is running out for this core group of athletes. Carlos Beltran and Carlos Delgado are coming down on a decline from the primes of their respective careers. The acquisitions of Francisco Rodriguez, Livan Hernandez, Darren O'Day, J.J Putz, and Jeremy Reed will help the Mets get over the humps that got in their way on the last day of the regular season both in 2007 and 2008 seasons. I believe this year is the year the Mets make it into the playoffs and do it with style.

Philadelphia Phillies

The Phillies are the World Champs! That being said the Phillies you knew last season are almost identical to the Phillies you will see in 2009. The only difference is Pat Burrell has moved on to sunnier times in south Florida playing for the Tampa Bay Rays, and Raul Ibanez will start in left. That is the only departure/acquistion the World Champs made all offseason. Chase Utley is coming off surgery and should be

ready for Opening Day. Jimmy Rollins, Shane Victorino, Cole Hamels, and Ryan Howard really lockdown this NL East lineup. I think that the Phillies and Mets will both represent the NL East in the playoffs this year.

Florida Marlins

The Florida Marlins have very good young talent and will be big contenders in the years to come. However, I do not know if the Marlins are ready this year to take on the Mets or the Braves for the NL East crown. The Marlins are stacked with good young pitchers including, Josh Johnson Ricky Nolasco, Matt Lindstrom, Anibal Sanchez, Taylor Tankersley and Logan Kensing. Dan Uggla an All-Star in 2008, along with Hanley Ramirez anchor a young Marlin lineup. The young and talented Cameron Maybin will be starting in center for these fighting fish. Look for the Marlins to be scrappy and work for every run in 2009.

Washington Nationals

This offseason, the Nationals had one objective, fill the seats in their new stadium. The front office had some money to throw around and in return they landed Adam Dunn, Scott Olsen, Daniel Cabrera, and Corey Patterson. Lastings Milledge will become a house-

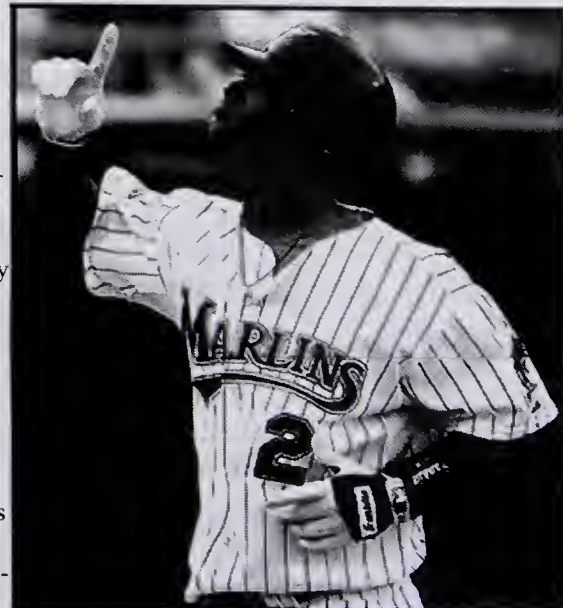
hold name in D.C. this summer, but the Nationals are still a few years away from really contending. Joel Hanrahan proved himself last year out of the bullpen and was rewarded with the closers role this year. The Nationals have a good solid lineup, but just don't compare with the Mets or the Phillies. The Nationals stock is on the rise, and look for an improvement this year.



Photo Courtesy of: http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_Tj5EFTd0ehw/R_xAA3EJADI/AAAAAAAAAgo/6wdUjEUadQk/s320/NL_logo.jpg



(Photo courtesy of <http://assets.sbnation.com/assets/88365/nleat.jpg>)



Hanley Ramirez is considered to be the top SS in the MLB

(Photo courtesy of <http://img1.blockshopper.com/content/img/j205471/ramirez.jpg>)

Karma and the Cosmos

By Star Goddess Sophia



Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)
You have the ability to change the minds of a lot of people over the next few weeks in regards to something important. Just remember to smile a lot and use your trademark wit and you should be able to win people over.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May. 19)
You should really step back over the next few weeks and take some time to yourself. Whether that involves simply taking a walk on your own or staying indoors and just having a day to yourself, it is entirely up to you.

Gemini (May 20-June 20)
There are a lot of exciting opportunities coming up for you over the next few weeks. Just remember to not become overly excited and allow yourself to become nervous about what might occur.

Cancer (June 21-July 21)
Although you are tempted to follow your heart when it comes to certain situations, you might want to rely on your intellect instead. If you follow your mind instead of your heart things will turn out much better in the long run.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 22)
You might want to consider saving up your money over the next few weeks. Although saving money instead of spending is not fun, you might find that you will have an even better time with the money you save later on this month.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 21)
Your mind has been wandering quite a bit as of late and that has started to affect certain situations in your day-to-day life. You might want to try to focus a bit more in the next few weeks than you have been.

Libra (Sept. 22- Oct. 22)
You are a very good listener and your listening skills will be put to the test over the next week or so. A friend might come to you to ask advice so you want to be prepared to give both calming and thoughtful suggestions to help them on their way again.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Get ready to rearrange your schedule a bit for some new social opportunities that will come up over the next few weeks! The school year is nearly finished and you are ready to come out of your shell a bit and enjoy some fun down time.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 20)
You should be prepared to make a good impression on an important figure in your life over the next week or so. Whether you are expecting it or not, this person could bring about some positive changes in your life.

Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 19)
You have been feeling increasingly tired as of late so it is important that you get a bit of rest and relaxation in addition to working hard on school and social activities. If you do not take time for yourself, you might pay for it later on.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 17)
You have been seeing the bright side of life lately and this is causing a happy aura to surround you and your close friends. This positive energy will continue into the next few weeks so try to enjoy it while it lasts!

Pisces (Feb. 18-Mar. 20)
You should take things at a leisurely pace over the next week or so since you will have a lot of free time. Make the most of this time by enjoying the quieter side of campus life by taking a walk and reflecting and relaxing a bit.

Overheard

If you've heard anything scandalous at the cafeteria, anything outrageous enough that you can't keep it to yourself, then look no further!
Submit your anonymous comments to erm6109@saintjoe.edu today to let your peers' voices be heard!

It tastes like Jelly Bean and creamy Milk Dud.

You guys are doing great! You are going to die soon!

If you break his heart, I'll break your legs!

No thank you. I use toilet paper!

If Edward Cullen is so great then why was he a Hufflepuff?!

Iowa: Now more liberal than California.

Fact of the Matter

Blue whales reach between 70 and 110 feet and weigh up to 150 tons.

The Bible has been translated into Klingon.

Chameleons can move their eyes in two different directions at once.

A dairy cow can produce five gallons of ice cream a day.

Coca-Cola was originally green.

Toads have no teeth.

Ten percent of drinkers will go on to become alcoholics.

There are some species of snails that are extremely venomous.

Facts Courtesy of www.randomfun-facts.com

Words of Wisdom

"Affection is responsible for nine-tenths of whatever solid and durable happiness there is in our lives."
C.S. Lewis

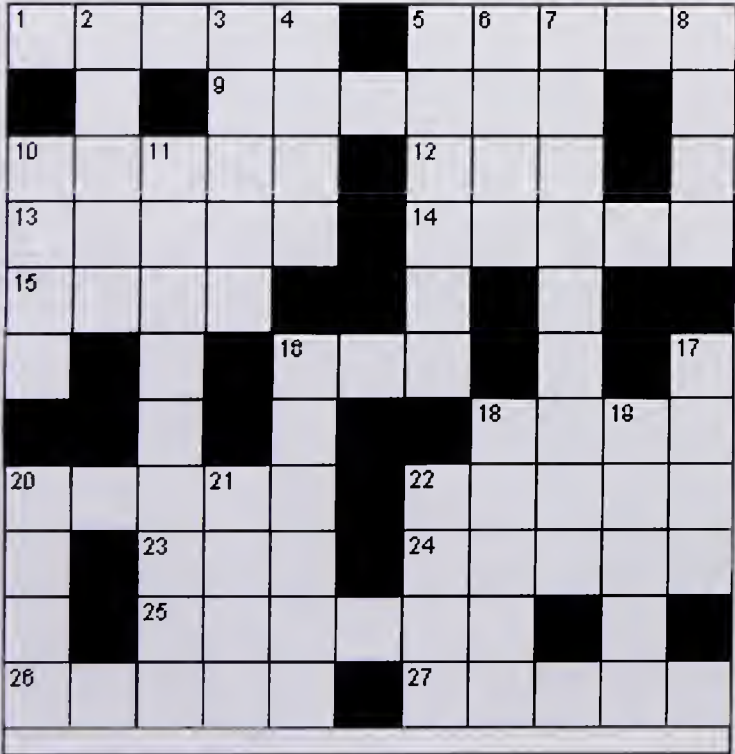
"Real success is finding your lifework in the work that you love."
David McCullough

"When the character of a man is not clear to you, look at his friends."
Japanese Proverb

Quotes courtesy of www.quotationspage.com

Puzzle Time!

For Answers Go To: <http://www.crossword-site.com/print/usmep100.shtml>



Across

- Drain off a fluid
- In a higher place
- Less distant
- Dwelling
- Worthless piece of cloth
- Pry
- Electronic letter (1-4)
- Sliding vehicle
- Exclamation of contempt
- Roughly
- Lyrical wordsmiths
- Terrible
- Irritate
- Fall guy
- Eccentric man
- The heavens
- Enthusiastic kiss

Down

- Tag
- Terminated
- Source of venison
- Take into custody
- Horizontal structural component
- Gallery occupied by a church organ (5,4)
- Wicked
- Too
- Exceed in weight
- Animal with tusks
- Have confidence in
- Body of bees
- Melody
- Head of the Roman Catholic Church
- Tall plant
- Copies

Fountain Stone Theaters

Movies for April 9
(219) 866-2222

fountainstonetheaters.com

Fast and Furious (PG-13)

Fri: 4:30, 6:40, 8:50
Sat: 4:30, 6:40, 8:50
Sun: 2:40, 4:30, 6:40
Mon-Thurs: 4:30, 6:40

I Love You, Man (R)

Fri: 4:20, 6:30, 8:50
Sat: 4:20, 6:30, 8:50
Sun: 1:50, 4:20, 6:30
Mon-Thurs: 4:20, 6:30

Knowing (PG-13)

Fri: 4:10, 6:20, 8:30
Sat: 4:10, 6:20, 8:30
Sun: 2:20, 4:10, 6:20
Mon-Thurs: 4:10, 6:20

Race to Witch Mountain (PG)

Fri: 4:30, 6:50, 8:40
Sat: 4:30, 6:50, 8:40
Sun: 2:10, 4:30, 6:50
Mon-Thurs: 4:50, 6:50

Monsters Vs. Aliens (PG)

Fri: 4:50, 7:00, 8:30
Sat: 4:50, 7:00, 8:30
Sun: 2:40, 4:50, 7:00
Mon-Thurs: 4:50, 7:00

Coming Soon!

17 Again

The Soloist

The Ritz Cinema

Movies for April 9
(219) 866-0086

www.ritzcinema.net

Friday the 13th (R)

Every night at 7:30